

REMARKS

By this Amendment, claims 1-16, 21-22, and 27-30 are now pending with claims 1, 8, 21 and 27 amended, and with claims 17-20 and 23-26 cancelled. No new matter is introduced. Reconsideration in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

First, Applicants' wish thank Examiner Lezak for the discussions with Applicants' undersigned attorney and the indication that independent claims 1, and 8, as amended, and claims dependent therefrom, and as presented herewith would place the case in condition for allowance. In addition, new claim 30 is also believed allowable, but Examiner Lezak reserves the right to issue a restriction requirement, if necessary. Further, a Related Case Statement and IDS are submitted herewith for the Examiner's consideration.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested. If, however, the Examiner deems that any issues remain after considering this response, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney to expedite the prosecution and engage in a joint effort to work out a mutually satisfactory solution.

Respectfully submitted,

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